

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/630,069

Examiner

Ellen C. Tran

Applicant(s)

HAMLIN, CHRISTOPHER L.

Art Unit

2134

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3 January 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-6,8,9 and 11-26.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Jaqueline L. Tran*  
J. L. Tran  
Examiner

### ***Reasons for Allowance***

1. In response to amendment filed on 3 January 2006. Claims 1, 3-6, 8, 9, and 11-26 are pending. Claims 1, 8, 9, 11 are amended, claims 2, 7, and 10 were canceled. Amendment to the claims is accepted.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1, 3-6, 8, 9, and 11-26 are allowed due to arguments presented beginning on page 8:

*'Claim 12 recites a computer comprising a plurality of interconnected network devices including a disk drive that comprises an interface for receiving user access request to access a network device and transmitting device access data to the client computer ... Alonso does not disclose or suggest these limitations because the Alonso does not disclose a disk drive comprising an interface for receiving from a client computer a user ID and user access request'.*

The cited art references do not teach, the following from claim 12 - a disk drive comprising: an interface for receiving from a client computer a user ID along with user access request, a disk controller, responsive to the user ID and user access request, for controlling access to the disk.

*'Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitation recited in claims 2, 7, and 10 ... The previous rejection against these claims are incorrect because DeTreville does not disclose manufacture of a disk drive. Second DeTreville discloses to manufacture a CPU with a pair of public and private keys 150 that are unique to the CPU (col. 5, lines 54-55). That is, the public and private keys are for accessing the CPU and not other devices connected to a network'. The cited references do not teach the following from claim 1 a disk drive comprising: an*

Art Unit: 2134

interface for receiving from a client computer a user ID along with user access request,  
a disk controller, responsive to the user ID and user access request, for controlling access  
to the disk.

*'Claim 22, recites a disk drive ... However, modifying Alonso in view of Jackson and DeTreville would result in an authentication server implementing network authentication facilities using a secrete device key and not a disk drive implementing network authentication facilities using a secrete device key'.* In addition the following in claim 22 is not taught in any of the cited references: a disk drive comprising: an

interface for receiving from a client computer a user ID along with user access request,  
a disk controller, responsive to the user ID and user access request, for controlling access  
to the disk.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ellen C Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-3842. The examiner can normally be reached from 6:00 am to 2:30 pm.

Art Unit: 2134

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jacques H. Louis-Jacques can be reached on (571) 272-6962. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*Ellen. Tran*  
*Patent Examiner*  
*Technology Center 2134*  
31 March 2006

*Jacques H. Louis-Jacques*  
JACQUES H. LOUIS-JACQUES  
PATENT EXAMINER